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Mr. Sherry- Comp 101

**Recommend it?**

Throughout the last few weeks of the spring semester of my freshman year, I was assigned to read *The Blind Side*. Knowing that I watched the movie prior to reading the book, I thought I would know everything that was going on in the book. I would recommend the movie, let alone the book. People always say that the books are better than the movies, and in this case I would agree with that statement. Overall, I would recommend this book because it explained a lot more about the play that made the left tackle the second highest paid player, and because it is based on a true story, it shows how there are still good people out in this world.

Growing up in a family who is big into football means you will know plays, players, and positions like the back of your hand. From reading *The Blind Side,* I learned a lot more about the specific position of the left tackle. It all started out in 1981 when Lawrence Taylor became a part of the New York Giants defense (Lewis 16). Taylor became one of the most threatening linebackers, charging at, and destroying multiple quarterbacks in the league from their blind side. He would come around from the side that quarterbacks could not see him coming, not even out of the corner of their eye. When Taylor started dominating quarterbacks, NFL teams found that they needed someone not only big enough, but also have the speed to block Lawrence Taylor. If and when someone of this ability was found, they would be paid a lot of money. Considering they were protecting the most important player on the team, the quarterback, the left tackle became the second highest paid player on an NFL team.

Another reason why I would recommend this book is because it shows that there are good people in this world still. Before the Tuohy’s even realized what kind of talent Michael Oher had, they let him stay in their home whenever he wanted to. Although he had moved around a lot in the past, he finally felt comfortable somewhere. Living in the South, where race is still questionable, a homeless African-American boy did not fit into a wealthy white family’s home. No matter how people looked at their family, the Tuohy’s did not care. They accepted Michael for who he was and wanted to do all they could for him. They found out what he was uncomfortable talking about, found he was a very sincere young man who cared about nothing but the safety of others. The Tuohy family not only provided Michael with a place to stay, but also a family who would love and care for him for the rest of his life.

In conclusion, *The Blind Side* was not only just a good movie, but also a fantastic book. There were many details in the book that were not included in the movie, making it a lot more descriptive and interesting. Overall, I would recommend this book to everyone. It is not just for sport-lovers. Although there are many things in the book that have to do with football, the storyline can be enjoyed by all. All in all, I would recommend this book because it explains why the left tackle is one of the most important players, and also shows the good that some people still have in this world.

**Reflection**

After the first essay that was assigned, I received feedback that could help me to better my writing for my future papers and my major. The essay was based off of an interview with someone in our major. As a Criminal Justice major, I interviewed Karen Meunier who was a very good teacher that I had in the fall. Overall, the feedback that I received said that my essay was well-written, but specific examples and a clear audience is what I could improve on. By using this feedback, I believe that I improved my writing in this essay. For example, in the second paragraph, I used a specific example from my book, *The Blind Side*. By using a specific example, I can see that it helps the reader to understand what you are trying to say. Another thing that I needed to improve was having a clear audience. In my concluding paragraph, I included the audience of who I would recommend the book to. The book can be appealing to all people, not just sport-lovers. Although there is no specific audience that I would recommend the book to, I explained in the paragraph why anyone would enjoy reading it.

**Works Cited**

Lewis, Michael. The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game. New York: W.W. Norton, 2006. Print.